

IMPROVED SPIN VALVE PROPERTIES

ABSTRACT

A method for forming a magnetic head having an improved PtMn layer, including forming a PtMn layer by ion beam deposition, forming an antiparallel (AP) pinned layer structure above the PtMn layer, and forming a free layer above the AP pinned layer structure. The method provides a spin valve structure having improved soft magnetic properties of the free layer as well as increases the dR/R of spin valve structures in which implemented.